SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the Abstract with the following:

A secure, computer based method and system for anonymously and confidentially matching indications of interest from potential buyers and sellers is disclosed which facilitates human intervention for negotiating a final transaction between matched parties. Potential buyers and sellers independently enter indications of interest into a central processing system which operates on a network containing a secure station ~~and a plurality of remote user terminals linked to the secure station~~. The indications identify a security ~~(such as a trading equity)~~, price, type of order, duration, and other ~~related~~ information. A memory at the secure station stores user data and multiple prospective transaction entries received from the user terminals. Indications of interest are compared against those already in the system to determine whether buy side and sell side orders are sufficiently similar to generate a match. When a match occurs, each party ~~and/or its authorized representative~~ is given contact information for the other party ~~and/or its authorized representative~~ to facilitate negotiation of a final transaction. Transacting parties remain anonymous, and transaction information remains confidential, until a match occurs. ~~Transacting parties have an option of adding conditions such as acceptable price, amount and time limits, to their prospective transaction entries. Other options enable parties to place such entries in a pending mode in which the entry is not compared with other entries, and later change the mode form pending to active.~~